

REMARKS:

Claims 1-25 are pending. Claims 1-4, 9, 13, and 20 have been cancelled by the present Amendment without prejudice to the subject matter recited therein. Claims 5, 8, 10-12, 14, 15 18 and 19 have been amended. The Specification has also been amended. No new matter has been introduced by means of these amendments.

The Office Action mailed on November 8, 2004, indicated that claims 21-25 were allowed, and that claims 6-7, 10-12, and 18-19 would be allowable if amended to be in independent form.

Claim 13 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, because the specification does not reasonably provide enablement for abrasive particles having a size in the range of 0.01-90 microns. The specification, at page 6 has been amended accordingly. Support for this amendment is found in claim 13 as filed.

Applicants' acknowledge, with appreciation, the opportunity provided to Applicants' representatives on January 5, 2005, to conduct a telephone interview with the Examiner in connection with the above-identified application.

During the interview, it was agreed that the proposed amended claims sent to the Examiner on January 5, 2005 (i.e., independent claims 5, 8, and 15) are patentable over the art of record. Those amended claims are being formally submitted as part of this response. Dependent claims 6-7, 10-12, 14, and 16-19 depend from one of claims 5, 8, and 15. As such, claims 6-7, 10-12, 14, and 16-19 are also patentable over the art of record.

Accordingly, based on the foregoing, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that direct communication with Applicant's representative will facilitate allowance of this application, or if there are any questions regarding this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald W. Back et al.

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert E. Cannuscio', is written over a horizontal line.

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